

§ 160.055-4

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in accordance with the requirements of Specification MIL-C-43006.

(h) *Webbing*. There are no restrictions as to color, but the fastness of the color to laundering, water, crocking, and light shall be rated “good” when tested in accordance with Federal Test Method Standard No. 191, Methods 5610, 5630, 5650, and 5660. The complete body strap assembly shall have a minimum breaking strength of 360 pounds.

(1) *Nylon webbing*. This webbing shall be 1-inch wide nylon webbing in accordance with the requirements of Specification MIL-W-17337.

(2) *Cotton webbing*. This webbing shall be 1-inch cotton webbing meeting the requirements of Specification MIL-W-530 for Type IIb webbing. This webbing shall be treated with a mildew-inhibitor of the type specified in paragraph (e) of this section.

(i) *Hardware*. All hardware shall be brass, bronze, or stainless steel, and of the approximate size indicated by the drawings. Steel hardware, protected against corrosion by plating, is not acceptable. Snap hook springs shall be phosphor bronze or other suitable corrosion-resistant material. Dee ring, o-ring, slide adjuster and snap hook ends shall be welded or brazed, or they may be a one-piece casting. The complete body strap assembly shall have a minimum breaking strength of 360 pounds.

(j) *Coating*. The coating for the plastic foam shall be a liquid elastomeric vinyl compound. The coating shall be International Orange in color (Color No. 12197 of Federal Standard 595) or Scarlet Munsel 7.5, Red 6/10 and shall meet the following requirements in Table 160.055-3(j):

TABLE 160.055-3(j)

Property	Test method	Requirement
Tensile strength	ASTM-D882, Method B, ½ in. dumbbell die	1,200 p.s.i., minimum.
Ultimate elongation	ASTM-D882, Method B, ½ in. dumbbell die	320 percent, minimum.
Tear resistance	ASTM-D1004, Constant Elongation Machine	90 pounds per inch, minimum.
Abrasion resistance	FS CCC-T-191, Method 5304, No. 8 cotton duck, 6 lb. tension, 2 lb. pressure.	100,000 double rubs.
Blocking	FS CCC-T-191, Method 5872, 30 minutes at 180 °F., ¼ p.s.i.	No blocking.
Accelerated weathering	FS CCC-T-191, Method 5670, 120 hours	Color change—very slight. Cracking—None. Flexibility—No change.
Plasticizer heat loss	FS CCC-A-700, paragraph 4.4.4, 48 hours at 221 °F.	8 percent, maximum.
Adhesion to foam—Tensile pull	ASTM-D413, machine method, 12 in. per minute, 1 in. strip.	
Film to foam skin		4 lb./in., minimum.
Film to foam (no skin)		2 lb./in., minimum.
Water absorption	ASTM-D570, 24 hours at 70 °F	0.5 percent, maximum.
Cold crack (unsupported film) 0 °F	Coast Guard, 164.015, paragraph 164.015-4(j) ...	No cracking.

[CGFR 66-73, 32 FR 5500, Apr. 4, 1967, as amended by CGD 72-163R, 38 FR 8121, Mar. 28, 1973; CGD 78-012, 43 FR 27153, 27154, June 22, 1978; CGD 84-068, 58 FR 29493, May 20, 1993]

§ 160.055-4 **Materials—nonstandard life preservers.**

All materials used in nonstandard life preservers must be equivalent to those specified in §160.055-3 for standard life preservers.

[CGD 72-163R, 38 FR 8121, Mar. 28, 1973]

§ 160.055-5 **Construction—standard life preservers.**

(a) *General*. This specification covers life preservers which essentially consist of plastic foam buoyant material

arranged and distributed so as to provide the flotation characteristics and buoyancy required to hold the wearer in an upright or slightly backward position with head and face clear of the water. The life preservers are also arranged so as to be reversible and are fitted with straps and hardware to provide proper adjustment and fit to the bodies of various size wearers.

(b) *Construction—standard, vinyl dip coated life preserver*. This device is constructed from one piece of unicellular plastic foam with neck hole and the